

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MAPUTO 01249 041420Z

41

ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 ACDA-07 SAJ-01 OMB-01 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /076 W

----- 092908

R 040909Z NOV 76

FM AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5176

INFO AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY LILONGWE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

USMISSION NATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L MAPUTO 1249

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, MILI, MZ, UR

SUBJECT: ALLEGED SOVIET BASE AT BAZARUTO ISLAND, MOZAMBIQUE

REF: (A) USNATO 5797 (NOTAL); (B) USDAO LISBON

IR 6-879-0565-76 (NOTAL)

1. REFS ARE LATEST IN CONTINUAL SERIES OF RUMORS
THAT SOVIETS ARE BUILDING AN AIR, NAVAL, ELINT OR
OTHER BASE ON OR NEAR BAZARUTO ISLAND, MOZAMBIQUE
(21 40S 35 25E).

2. EMBASSY HAS NO INFORMATION TO CONFIRM SUCH RE-
PORTS EXCEPT THAT WE HAVE NOTED THAT SEVERAL MONTHS
AGO TRAVELERS ADVISED US THAT THE LAND ON THE SEA
SIDE OF THE MAIN ROAD FROM VILANCULOS TO INHASSORO
(ROUGHLY OPPOSITE BAZARUTO) WAS POSTED OFF LIMITS
AND A FEW SOLDIERS WERE SEEN IN THE AREA. ON THE
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PAGE 02 MAPUTO 01249 041420Z

OTHER HAND, HOLIDAY FLIGHTS TO ADJACENT PARADISE

ISLAND (SANTO CAROLINA) CONTINUE TO OPERATE. SUCH
FLIGHTS WOULD OVERFLY (AT A LOW ALTITUDE) ANY ALLEGED
INSTALLATION IN THE AREA.

3. WE ARE FRANKLY SKEPTICAL ABOUT SUCH REPORTS BUT
GIVEN THE LACK OF CLEAR CONFIRMATORY OR REFUTORY
INFORMATION WILL CONTINUE TO KEEP CHECKING ON
THESE REPORTS.
DE PREE

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